

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 5th April 1890.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
1	"Ahammadi"	Tangail, Mymensingh	450	27th March 1890.
2	"Ave Maria"	Calcutta	.....
3	"Divakar"	Ditto	.....
4	"Gaura Duta"	Maldah	.....
5	"Kasipore Nibasi"	Kasipore, Burrisal	30	First fortnight of Chaitra 1296 B.E.
6	"Purva Bangabasi"	Noakholly	.....
7	"Purva Darpan"	Chittagong	700	
8	"Uttara Banga Hitaishi"	Mahiganj, Rungpore...	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
9	"Arya Darpan"	Calcutta	102	31st March 1890.
10	"Bangabasi"	Ditto	20,000	29th ditto.
11	"Bangala Exchange Gazette"	Calcutta	.....	30th ditto.
12	"Burdwan Sanjibani"	Burdwan	302	25th ditto.
13	"Chandra Vilash"	Berhampore	250	
14	"Charuvarta"	Sherepore, Mymensingh	500	24th ditto.
15	"Chattal Gazette"	Chittagong	800	
16	"Dacca Prakash"	Dacca	1,200	30th ditto.
17	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly	885	28th ditto.
18	"Faridpur Hitaishini"	Faridpur	.....
19	"Garib"	Dacca	3,000	
20	"Grambasi"	Uluberia	800	29th ditto.
21	"Gaurab"	Ditto	.....
22	"Guru Charana"	Calcutta	.....
23	"Hindu Ranjika"	Beaulah, Rajshahye...	300	
24	"Jagatbasi"	Calcutta	750	
25	"Murshidabad Patrika"	Berhampore	508	
26	"Murshidabad Pratinidhi"	Ditto	350	
27	"Navavibhakar Sadharani"	Calcutta	600	31st ditto.
28	"Pratikar"	Berhampore	600	28th ditto.
29	"Rungpore Dik Prakash"	Kakinia, Rungpore	205	
30	"Sahachar"	Calcutta	500	26th ditto.
31	"Samaya"	Ditto	3,806	28th ditto.
32	"Sanjivani"	Ditto	4,000	29th ditto.
33	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong	800	
34	"Sakti"	Dacca	.....	25th ditto.
35	"Santi"	Calcutta	3,722	
36	"Sarawat Patra"	Dacca	300	
37	"Som Prakash"	Calcutta	1,000	31st ditto.
38	"Srimanta Saudagar"	Ditto	.....
39	"Sudhakar"	Ditto	2,580	28th ditto.
40	"Sulabha Samachar o Kusadaha"	Ditto	800	27th ditto.
41	"Sulabh Samvad"	Ditto	.....	29th ditto.
42	"Surabhi o Patika"	Chandernagore	700	28th ditto.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	
Daily.					
43	"Dainik o Samáchár Chandriká " ...	Calcutta ...	1,500	From 30th March to 2nd April 1890. 28th, 29th and 31st March and 1st to 3rd April 1890. 28th, 29th and 31st March and 1st to 3rd April 1890.	
44	" Samvád Prabhákar " ...	Ditto ...	800		
45	" Samvád Purnachandrodaya " ...	Ditto ...	300		
46	" Banga Vidyá Prakashiká " ...	Ditto ...	500		
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.					
Weekly.					
47	" Dacca Gazette " ...	Dacca ...	.....	31st March 1890.
HINDI.					
Monthly.					
48	" Darjeeling Mission ke Másik Sámachár Patrika." ...	Darjeeling ...	20	29th ditto. 27th ditto. 31st ditto.	
49	" Kshatriya Pratiká " ...	Patna ...	200		
Weekly.					
50	" Aryávarta " ...	Calcutta ...	1,500		
51	" Behar Bandhu " ...	Bankipore ...	.....	29th ditto. 27th ditto. 31st ditto.
52	" Bhárat Mitra " ...	Calcutta ...	1,653		
53	" Sár Sudhánidhi " ...	Ditto ...	500		
54	" Uchit Baktá " ...	Ditto ...	4,500		
55	" Hindi Samáchár " ...	Bhagulpore ...	1,000		
PERSIAN.					
Weekly.					
56	" Jám-Jahán-numá " ...	Calcutta ...	250		
URDU.					
Weekly.					
57	" Aftal Alum Arrah " ...	Arrah ...	300	1st April 1890. 17th March 1890. 21th ditto.	
58	" Akhbar Tusdiq-i-Hind " ...	Calcutta ...	.....	
59	" Anis " ...	Patna ...	.....	
60	" Gauhur " ...	Calcutta ...	196		
61	" Sharaf-ul-Akbar " ...	Behar ...	150		
62	" Al Punch " ...	Bankipore ...	.....	
63	" Urdu Guide Darussaltanat " ...	Calcutta ...	340		
64	" Raisul-Akhbari-Moorshidabad " ...	Murshidabad ...	.....	
URIA.					
Monthly.					
65	" Asha " ...	Cuttack ...	.....	
66	" Taraka and Subhavártá " ...	Ditto ...	.....	
67	" Pradíp " ...	Ditto ...	.....	
68	" Samyabadi " ...	Ditto ...	.....	
Weekly.					
69	" Dipaka " ...	Cuttack ...	.....	1st and 8th March 1890. 1st, 8th and 15th March 1890. 27th February & 6th & 13th ditto. 26th February & 5th & 12th ditto.
70	" Utkal Dípiká " ...	Ditto ...	444		
71	" Samvad Váhika " ...	Balasore ...	205		
72	" Urya and Navasamvád " ...	Ditto ...	600		
PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.					
BENGALI.					
Fortnightly.					
73	" Silchar " ...	Silchar ...	500		
Weekly.					
74	" Paridarshak " ...	Sylhet ...	450	24th March 1890.	

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

THE *Cháruvartá*, of the 24th March, says that dacoities lately took place within the jurisdiction of the Gopalpore thana, in the Tangail sub-division of the Mymensingh district, and that the offenders have not yet been brought to justice. These dacoities have also given rise to the rumour that other dacoities are likely soon to be committed within the jurisdiction of the Kalihati thana. The budmashes within the Gopalpore and Kalihati thanas are not kept in proper check by the police, and even the Deputy Magistrate is sometimes found to be indifferent in the matter. The conduct of the police in this connection is very suspicious.

CHARUVARTA,
Mar. 24th, 1890.

2. The *Samaya*, of the 28th March, says that the story of the insult offered by Mr. Porter, Cantonment Magistrate of Allahabad, to Sriman Swami, has all the appearance of a true story. Yet the writer would like to have an explanation from Mr. Porter himself. If the story be true, Government should soon take steps in the matter, or people will have reason to think that they are living under Turkish rule. The setting of the secret police on an innocent man, and that for helping a newspaper, is a thing never heard of before. Government somehow hushed up the charge brought by Mr. Norton and Pundit Ajodhyanath of employing the secret police to watch the proceedings of the Congress. And the writer is anxious to know how Government answers this second charge of employing the secret police.

SAMAYA,
Mar. 28th, 1890.

3. The *Sulabh Samáchar-o-Kushdaha*, of the 28th March, says that, in spite of the law forbidding the practice, the Ichamati river between Bongong and Samkur is often obstructed by fishermen for fishing purposes. This practice makes navigation in this part of the river very dangerous, besides polluting the water and making it undrinkable. The head-constable and police darogah are often seen to come on inspection, but they come simply to take bribes from the fishermen and never put the law in operation against them. The Deputy Magistrate will find this statement to be true if he enquires, and it is hoped that he will take proper steps in the matter.

SULABH SAMACHAR-O-
KUSHDAHA,
Mar. 28th, 1890.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

4. The *Sahachar*, of the 26th March, says that O' Hara's discharge by the Full Bench of the Calcutta High Court has given rise to some important law questions. The question has been raised whether a Court can order the retrial of a person whom it has once discharged, and it is stated that this is impossible under the law which guides the High Court's own action in such matters. And this law is a great protection to Europeans, who, when guilty of serious offences, are tried by the High Court, Magistrates and Sessions Judges having no power under the law to sentence them to long terms of imprisonment. But how different is the position of a native accused of a criminal offence in the mofussil. Under section 435 of the Indian Criminal Procedure Code, the High Court, a Sessions Court, a District Magistrate, and in some cases even a Sub-divisional Magistrate can, with the view of ascertaining whether the decision passed was right, call for the papers of a case in which an accused person has been discharged by a Magistrate either under section 235 on the hearing of the application, or under section 253 after going into the evidence of the plaintiff. Such a Court can also, under section 537, order the Subordinate Magistrate to make further enquiries. But is it not

SAHACHAR,
Mar. 26th, 1890.

wrong to retry a case which has been dismissed by a Magistrate after careful consideration? Formerly the High Court only could order such retrial of cases. But now Magistrates and Sessions Judges too have got that power. The vesting of District Magistrates with that power is not very objectionable. But it is dangerous to vest with this power the Magistrate who is also the head of the police in his own district, because such a Magistrate is likely to be prevailed upon by the police to order retrials of discharged prisoners. As things stand at present, a Magistrate can order the retrial of any dismissed case and can entrust such retrial to any other Magistrate, and the Magistrate so appointed to retry a case can, without committing any legal impropriety, convict an accused person on the evidence on which he was discharged by another Magistrate. This means that the District Magistrate can have his own way in the matter of the retrial of an accused person.

A retrial is allowed in civil cases only when some evidence which no one knew of before accidentally turns up. But no new evidence is required for the retrial of a criminal case which involves risk to life and liberty. If the Magistrate only thinks that the calling of a witness who has not been called by the plaintiff will result in the conviction of the accused, he can order his retrial. In vain must the unfortunate accused protest in such cases that the complainant who knew of that witness could have easily called him, and that he having already cross-examined the witnesses produced against him, any new witness who might be called might be tutored in the light of that cross-examination. Under the Indian Criminal Procedure Code, the Magistrate is bound to act as an advocate for the complainant, for he is bound to call any new witness who may, in his opinion, bring the charge home to the accused. But the Magistrate is not bound to issue summonses to all the witnesses whom the accused may be desirous of calling. The Magistrate must follow the least scent of evidence in favour of the complainant, but the unfortunate accused must shift for himself. Does not this show that the chief object of the Criminal Procedure Code is to punish people? The popular impression in this country is that the magisterial officers inflict heavy punishments in order to strike terror into the hearts of the people. The principle "Let ten guilty persons escape, but let not one innocent person suffer," is not for India. Here the accused must be an exceptionally lucky man who escapes. The judicial officers act with calmness and wisdom. But the law is so defective that oppressions take place from time to time in spite of their wisdom and calmness. Indeed that liberty of the person on which natives pride themselves so much is in reality a delusion.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Mar. 27th, 1890]

5. A correspondent of the *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 27th March, has the following on O'Hara's discharge by the Full Bench:—

O'Hara's discharge.

The writer does not see much to blame in the judgment of the Full Bench in this case. Though the error of law which Mr. Justice Norris made by not telling the jury that Goldsborough was an accomplice, and that his evidence was therefore not quite trustworthy, may appear to ordinary people to be a mere legal technicality, it is surely a very serious error in the eye of the law. It is true that the discharge of O'Hara will make the oppression by the European soldiery intolerable, but in trying the case the Judges were not bound to be influenced, and they would have been wrong if they had allowed themselves to be influenced by any consideration of that kind. Again, as the Full Bench has discharged the prisoner for want of evidence and not acquitted him, he may be tried again if sufficient evidence of his guilt is forthcoming. But as the High Court cannot pass an order for his retrial, it is for the Lieutenant-Governor to make the necessary order, for the retrial of a criminal like O'Hara is very desirable.

Other charges than that of murder are available against the soldiers, and it is really astonishing that they have not been yet put on their trial on those charges.

6. The *Bangabasi*, of the 29th March, says that the outlook in Jessore has not improved. The ryots are gradually losing all confidence in Mr. Lusson, and the following are some of the charges made by them against that officer:—

BANGABASI,
Mar. 29th, 1890.

- (1) The ryots, pleaders, and mukhtears are not allowed access to the papers containing the depositions of the police on the side of the planters, nor to the papers containing the charges, nor to other papers relating to the cases. When they want a mukhtarnama for signature, the file of papers containing it is not given to them, but only the mukhtarnama is torn from the file and handed to them. Sufficient time is not allowed for taking copies of papers, and no copies of the papers relating to the police are given. This causes great inconvenience to the pleaders who appear for the ryots.
- (2) The Magistrate cautions the plaintiffs and their witnesses by putting to them leading questions on points of importance, on which, they would, but for such warning, break down in cross-examination by the defendants' pleaders.
- (3) Wealthy and respectable people with respectable witnesses on their side are being sent to prison on the evidence of planters' men serving on salaries of Rs. 3 or Rs. 4 per month.

Mr. Lusson's attention is drawn to those charges, in the hope that he will make no delay in exonerating himself therefrom and thus disabusing the ryots.

7. The *Kasipore Nivasi*, for the first fortnight of Magh, often hears complaints about the hardship which the people of Sahabajpore and of the Jhalokati thana have to suffer from having to conduct their suits at Burrisal. If this complaint is found true on enquiry, Government should remove one of the Burrisal munsifs to Mehendigunge and another either to the Jhalakati *bandar* or to the Jhalokati station. If the munsifs are removed to these places, Government will not have to bear the cost of their maintenance.

KASIPUR NIVASI,
Magh, 1296 B. E.

(a)—Education.

8. The *Ahmadi*, of the 27th March, considers it doubtful whether Government has a mind to encourage the teaching of Arabic and Persian in the Bengal schools, and is of opinion that it should make no delay in clearly explaining its views on the subject to the public. If it be in favour of these studies, it should at once make arrangements for the proper teaching of those languages in the madrassas, or if it be disinclined to interfere with the madrassas, in the lower schools.

AHMADI
Mar. 27th, 1890

9. The same paper says that it was thought that the affiliation of the Graham School in Tangail in the Mymensingh district to the Calcutta University up to the Entrance standard would be beneficial to the inhabitants of the locality. But the want of a moulavi, with a good knowledge of English, stands in the way of its becoming as useful as it might be. The Tangail sub-division contains a large number of respectable Mahomedan inhabitants. But there

AHMADI.

BANGABASI,
Mar. 29th, 1890.

being no adequate provision in the school for teaching either Persian or English thoroughly, they are unwilling to send their children to it.

10. Referring to the question on pendulums set in the Physics paper Questions set at the last B. A. Examination. at the last B. A. Examination, a correspondent of the *Bangabasi*, of the 29th March, says that the subject of pendulums was excluded from the last year's curriculum, and yet the examiner did not hesitate to set a question from it. No less than 15 marks were allotted to this question. It is rumoured that these 15 marks will be given as grace to those candidates who have not attempted to answer the question, and those who have attempted it will obtain marks according to the nature of their answers. But it will be extremely unjust to assign the marks on this principle, and the rumour in question would have gained no credence if the University had not now been so full of scandals.

The questions in the paper on English literature were too numerous to be fully answered within the allotted time.

There were two courses in Physics, the old course and the new. But the questions set were the same in both the papers.

SANJIVANI,
Mar. 29th, 1890.

11. The *Sanjivani*, of the 29th March, has come to know that the paper on translation from Bengali into English set at the last Entrance Examination was framed by Baboo Nilmani Mukharji, Professor of Sanskrit at the Presidency College. It is for the University authorities to consider whether they should again appoint a man as an examiner who can write such queer Bengali. This head examiner, it is stated, has instructed his subordinate examiners to give half the number of marks allotted to the essay in Bengali to composition, and the other half to quotations and to rhetoric. But the assigning of marks on this principle will involve injustice to the boys, many of whom, though able to write well, cannot be expected to make profuse quotations. That a good many boys are plucked through the capriciousness of examiners like Nilmani Baboo is beyond all doubt, and such men should not certainly be appointed examiners.

SANJIVANI.

12. The same paper has received letters from some students of the Presidency College contradicting the charges made against Pundit Harish Chandra Kaviratna in a recent issue of this paper (see Report on Native Papers for week ending the 29th March, paragraph 23). Among those who have written are Sasisekhar Roy, Jadunath Datta, Mritunjaya Mitra, and Amarendranath Bhattacharyya. The last named student writes to say that the questions published in this paper were picked out from some select questions in Sanskrit given to the students of various colleges by their professors. If it be so, the correspondent should communicate the fact to the University authorities, who are already making an enquiry into the matter.

Another correspondent, Hem Chandra Datta, writes to the effect that Pundit Harish Chandra Kaviratna gave his pupils some five hundred questions, and it was exceedingly unfair for the writer of the article in the *Sanjivani* to pick out only twenty-seven questions therefrom and to say that those were the only questions which the pundit gave to his boys. The correspondent thinks that the informant of this paper was actuated by some vindictive motive towards Pundit Harish Chandra, and acted dishonestly in order to satisfy some old grudge against the professor.

SANJIVANI.

13. The same paper says that the remissness of the Managing Committee of the Bethune College in the discharge of their duty has caused the guardians of the pupils reading in that college to memorialise the Lieutenant-Governor praying for a reconstitution of the Committee on a different plan from that now obtaining. In the meantime the Committee have done certain acts which

The Bethune College.

clearly show that the guardians have with perfect justice petitioned the Government against them. These acts are—

(1). A proposal to increase the fees of the boarding scholars from Rs. 10 to Rs. 15 per month. The committee say in support of this proposal that so long as the number of boarders was small, Government could afford to bear the expenditure incurred for each boarder in excess of the fee paid by her. But the number of boarders having now undergone threefold increase, it has become necessary to levy from each boarder the whole amount of the expenditure which is incurred on her account. But the Managing Committee should know that as the boarders dine together the cost of their board cannot increase in the same proportion as their number. Again, the boarding expenses of a girl of the middle class cannot possibly exceed Rs. 10 per month. But it is idle to expect either the head mistress, who cannot be an expert in house-keeping, or the Managing Committee to conduct these things in a frugal manner. It may also be noted in this connection that the boarders do not now get the same number of meals that they used to get before. Does not the alleged necessity for increasing the boarding fee mean, under these circumstances, utter remissness on the part of the Committee?

(2). The proposal to keep the institution closed not only on Sundays but also on Saturdays. The reason why it is considered necessary to keep the school closed on Saturdays is that the Christian teachers and boarders do not otherwise find it convenient to give their clothes to the washerman. But it is simply absurd to think that the Christian teachers and boarders cannot make time for this business once a week. It is a business which ought not to take them more than two hours in the week; and the former Christian teachers and pupils could manage this business without closing the school on Saturdays. The proposal of the Committee to cut down the Hindu and Brahmo holidays will, if carried out, tell heavily on the attendance. No Hindu, for instance, will send his girl to school on the day of the Saraswati poojah or some other festival of the same kind. The school is closed every day at 3-30 P.M., and the hour for dinner is 6 P.M. Cannot the Christian teachers and pupils manage to give their clothes to the washerman during the two hours and a half that they have at their disposal between school hour and dinner time? And if more time is required, 7 P.M. may be fixed as dinner hour for Saturdays.

(3). The promotion of Miss Kamini Sen, a teacher of the institution, over the head of Baboo Kaliprasanna Das. Miss Kamini Sen has been discharging her duties most efficiently for the last four years, and her promotion will certainly give satisfaction to all. But the Committee should have recognised her services by giving her promotion not involving injustice to the claims of Baboo Kaliprasanna. There can be no doubt that no one will feel more pained than Miss Sen herself to find herself favoured at the expense of a fellow-worker of hers.

14. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 30th March, has received a telegram from Orissa to the effect that the Joint-Inspector of Schools, Orissa, Babu Radhanath Das, and the Deputy Inspector of Schools, Cuttack, are forcing their own works into the schools of Orissa as text-books: that they are also compelling the teachers to purchase those books for distribution to their boys for prizes, and that Babu Brahma Mohan Mallik, who has been deputed to make an enquiry into these charges, is trying to hush up the matter.

This is very annoying news indeed. It has been repeatedly observed in this paper that books written by those who are employed as inspecting officers should not be introduced into schools. But the evil practice prevails not only in Orissa, but also in Bengal. Is Babu Brahma Mohan himself,

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Mar. 30th, 1890.

who has been appointed to enquire into the question of school-books in Orissa, less to blame in this respect? What is there that he has not done, and what is there that he is not still doing, in order to drive out of the market all Bengali versions of Euclid, except his own?

It is idle to expect Sir Alfred Croft, however, to remedy the evil. As has been stated in previous issues of this paper, Sir Alfred is more fitted to be a courier than to be an able Director of Public Instruction. The Department of Education in Bengal stands very much in need of another Atkinson.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI
Mar. 31st, 1890.

15. The *Navavibhakar Sadharani*, of the 31st March, says that the University Examiners.

oozing out of the questions set at the last F. A. Examination shows how indiscreet it is to appoint a person as examiner in a subject which he himself teaches. The writer often heard the late Revd. K. M. Banerji say that the appointment of professors as examiners leads to serious irregularities in the conduct of examinations, and he has heard many thoughtful fellows of the University express themselves to the same effect. But the Calcutta University is made of such stuff that not even the loudest clamour can produce any effect upon it. The Mussulman Alauddin used to think that all his acts were right and all his views were orthodox, and the Calcutta University seems to have much of that Mussulman ruler in it. The chief function of the Head Examiners in the Entrance Examination being to ensure uniformity in the awarding of marks, none but cool, clear-headed and far-sighted men should be appointed as such. But one often hears of capricious Head Examiners. Many things were said last year against the Head Examiner of History and Geography. The writer does not know for what special merit or qualification the Head Examiner in Sanskrit and Bengali has occupied that position for years in succession. That a man is Professor of Sanskrit in the Presidency College is no proof that he is a Jagannath Tarkapanchanan in Sanskrit scholarship and an Iyarchandra Vidyasagar in Bengali scholarship. The nature and extent of this Head Examiner's knowledge of Sanskrit have been shown in this paper in a critique on his Sanskrit Grammar, and his skill in translation will be seen in his translation of "The studies he loved," as "তঁহার প্রিয় অধ্যয়ন" and of "His health, after a time, was partially restored," as "কিছু দিনের পর তিনি আপনাতর স্বাস্থ্য পুনঃ প্রাপ্ত হইলেন." Is it right to appoint a man who translates so badly as Head Examiner in Sanskrit and Bengali year after year when there are Pandit Maheschandra Nyayaratna and Pandit Krishnakamal Bhattacharyya so much more qualified for that position?

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Apr. 2nd, 1890.

16. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 2nd April, is sorry to say that it was Pandit Nilmani Mukherji who wrote at the bidding of his superiors the out-

landish Bengali of the translation paper set at the Entrance Examination. Nilmani Babu should have resigned his examinership instead of stooping to such humiliation. The writer cannot, however, approve of the *Sanjivani* newspaper's charges against Pandit Nilmani in connection with the examination of the answer papers in composition. Babu Nilmani may be liable to errors, as who is not; but he is not the man to deliberately countenance injustice and oppression.

(c)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Mar. 27th, 1890.

17. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 27th March, says that the houses with privies within the Burdwan Municipality

A night-soil rate within the Burdwan Municipality.

have been up to this time assessed to a monthly fee of 8 annas per privy, whilst houses without privies have been exempted from the fee. This arrangement, which has proved satisfactory up to this time, is about to be altered, and the Commissioners have asked the permission of Government to levy a night-soil tax.

which, like all other taxes, will be assessed on the values of houses. If the proposed arrangement is carried out, the owner of a large house containing only one privy will have to pay more as night-soil tax than the owner of a small house containing two or more privies, and that will certainly be very unfair. And the shop-keepers, the majority of whom have no privies in their shops, will have most reason for complaint, inasmuch as they will have to pay the tax without deriving any advantage from its imposition. Before asking the permission of Government in the matter, the Commissioners should therefore have given it their best consideration, and consulted the wishes of the rate-payers on the subject.

18. The *Bhārat Mitra*, of the 27th March, expresses dissatisfaction with the decision of the Bengal Government in the Durbhunga temple case, and requests it to reconsider its decision. As to the order for the reconstruction of the temple, would it be fair to charge on the municipality the expenses of such reconstruction?

BHARAT MITRA,
Mar. 27th, 1890.

19. The *Surabhi-o-Patākā*, of the 28th March, says that a public meeting was held some time ago at Benares, and a second public meeting was recently held at Durbhunga to consider the temple affair. These meetings have tried to pacify the people by explaining to them that the temple was not demolished at the desire of Government. The Maharaja of Durbhunga is also using his personal influence with the same object. It is hoped that Government will not disregard the prayers of its well-wishers.

SURABHI-O-PATAKA,
Mar. 28th, 1890.

20. The *Sulabh Samvād*, of the 29th March, says that whilst the Calcutta Municipality is making quite a fuss about the sanitation of the town, it is found to be quite indifferent in matters that will really conduce to the health of the residents. One can easily buy in the markets of Calcutta the worst kinds of commodities calculated to tell severely on the health of those who use them. The drainage arrangements, too, with the sewer pits and ventilation tubes, are of the most objectionable kind imaginable. Will the municipality condescend to have its drainage system examined by experienced medical men? The present virulence of cholera and small-pox in the town is undoubtedly due to its defective drainage arrangement.

SULABH SAMVAD,
Mar. 29th, 1890.

21. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 29th March, asks what might be the object of Government in not publishing the report of Mr. Boxwell on the Durbhunga affair after its large promises to the people. Is not the holding back of this report a pure whim of Sir Stuart's? But it will not be to His Honour's glory to act whimsically in opposition to the just rights of the people. At the beginning promises were conveyed to the people of Durbhunga through their Maharaja that Government would do full justice in the case. Is it to be supposed then that on reading Mr. Boxwell's report the Lieutenant-Governor has come to the conclusion that neither the Chairman nor the Vice-Chairman committed any offence? If so, His Honour should make no delay in publishing that report with the remarks he has himself recorded thereon. For if the public, too, find therefrom that the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman did nothing for which they can be blamed, it will not be in their power to go on complaining in this matter.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
Mar. 29th, 1890.

But the question is, why did Government make promises to the people which it did not mean to carry out? Certainly this Durbhunga affair will detract from His Honour's reputation as a just and upright ruler.

23. The *Bangabāsi*, of the 29th March, says that the people of Durbhunga forbore taking any action in the temple case, on the assurance given them by the Maharaja that Government would deal justly by the offenders. But they have

BANGABASI,
Mar. 29th, 1890.

now come to know that the Lieutenant-Governor will not punish the offenders more severely than His Honour has already done, and they therefore held a meeting the other day in order to decide upon the measures they should take to have the parties concerned in the act of sacrilege punished in the law courts. And there is in fact no alternative now left them but seeking the aid of the courts, when Government has failed to do justice in the case. The Lieutenant-Governor should soon see his way to publishing the report of Mr. Boxwell with his own remarks thereon, as that may yet allay public feeling in the matter.

BANGABANI,
Mar. 29th, 1890.

23. The same paper says that the recent rate-payers' meeting at the Town Hall was attended by the rich and the poor alike, as the new Municipal Act has affected the interests of both equally. It is not probable, however, that the agitation will bear good fruit.

The Legislature made the sad mistake of supposing that landed property in the town is held by the rich alone, and that most houses are for letting purposes only. The fact is that the bulk of the houses in the town are dwelling-houses, and are owned by middle class or even poor men. Sir Henry Harrison himself asked an experienced engineer of Ward No. 1, on the occasion of his inspection of that ward, whether all the houses he saw were used as dwelling-houses by their owners, and the reply he received was that most of the houses were used as such. If Sir Steuart Bayley condescends to reconsider the new principle of assessment, he cannot be too careful to note these facts. His Honour ought in fact to revise the whole Municipal Act, as there are many other provisions besides the one relating to the assessment of dwelling-houses that are open to very serious objection. It is clearly His Honour's duty to do these things. But it rests entirely with himself whether he will do so or no, and all that the writer will say in this connection is that it will be for His Honour's own good name if he does so.

SANJIVANI,
Mar. 29th, 1890.

24. The *Sanjivani*, of the 29th March, says that, though the officers of the Calcutta Municipality draw a higher scale of salaries than those of the Bombay or the Madras Municipality, Sir Henry Harrison is yet going to make a name for himself by increasing their salaries still further at an additional annual cost of a lakh of rupees, in complete disregard of the fact that the rate-payers are already ground down under the pressure of taxation. The Commissioners should now rather set about reducing their establishments, in so far of course as retrenchment can be made therein without interfering with their efficient working.

DACCA PRAKASH,
Mar. 30th, 1890

25. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 30th March, says that Mr. Beadon ought to have been adequately punished. A stigma will attach to the name of Sir Steuart Bayley if he does not, in consideration of that officer being the son of a distinguished father, inflict condign punishment upon him. It is true that the man gets into trouble who ventures to punish an offender who possesses interest. But the writer cannot believe that a man of Sir Steuart Bayley's stamp can be influenced by any such fear.

NAVATIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
Mar. 31st, 1890.

26. The *Navavibhakar Sadharani*, of the 31st March, says that the transfer of Mr. Beadon is a reward and not a punishment, and Government must be mistaken if it thinks that Mr. Beadon's transfer will pacify the people. The meeting recently held at Durbhunga shows what the people want. It is clear that they will not be pacified so long as justice is not done. Sir Steuart Bayley is therefore earnestly requested to do justice in the matter. It is not at all desirable that the people should entertain a feeling of dislike against the Government.

27. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 31st March, says that, in the present bad state of the health of Calcutta, the Health Officer of the town has not hesitated to take leave for a month and a half, leaving his office in charge of his assistant. It is needless to say that in the present condition of the town it is absolutely necessary that its health should be looked after by a competent Health Officer. And in the absence of Dr. Simpson, the Commissioners should appoint a competent European medical man to take sanitary charge of the town. The Corporation should also appoint a committee of those Commissioners who are medical men to investigate and ascertain the cause of the present bad health of the town, and adopt the measures which may be recommended by such committee.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
Mar. 31st, 1890.

28. It has been suggested to the *Kasipore Nivāsi*, for the first fortnight of Magh, by the people of the village Paschim Bagura, that if arrangements are made for the passage of water across the Harinafulia road by the construction of some culverts on it, the fields on both sides of the road may obtain an adequate supply of water and thus recover their fertility. It is hoped that the District Board will attend to this matter.

KASIPUR NIVASI,
Magh, 1296 B.E.

(f)—Questions affecting the land.

Working of the Court of Wards
in Midnapore.

29. A correspondent from Midnapore writes to the *Sanjivani*, of the 29th March, to the following effect:—

SANJIVANI
Mar. 29th, 1890.

A certificate under Act VII (B.C.) of 1880 was served upon Sadhu Charan Patya, a mokuraridar of the Nayagram estate in the Midnapore district, by the general manager of the estate, calling upon him to pay rents for which he was not liable and which he had never paid before. The Deputy Collector, on satisfactory evidence produced by the mokuraridar, decided that the man was not liable for the rents demanded from him. This judgment was reversed on appeal by the Acting Collector Mr. Allen, and the decision of the Collector was reversed on appeal to the Commissioner of the Burdwan Division.

Now this poor man would have been undone if he had not got the courage and perseverance to go up to the Commissioner. Hundreds of poor ryots, not so bold as Sadhu Charan, are daily subjected to oppression in the name of this obnoxious Act.

In many districts in Bengal there is a Wards' Department under the Collectorate, with only one mohurrir and one clerk for its establishment, and the estates of the minors are under the management of a sub-manager acting under the Collector. But in Midnapore there is a general manager on a salary of Rs. 300, with a very large establishment to assist him. Such an arrangement might have been excusable at a time when a big zemindari like the Mahisadal Estate was under the control of the Court of Wards. But where is the necessity of maintaining that arrangement now when that estate is no longer under the management of the Court of Wards? Will His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor kindly enquire how these highly-paid officials are looking after the interests of the minor zemindars?

(g)—Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.

30. The *Ahmadi*, of the 27th March, says that the people of Tangail, in the Mymensingh district, are greatly inconvenienced for want of a telegraph line from Muktagacha to Tangail. If the receipts of the proposed line fail to meet the expenses of its construction and working, any of the zemindars, Srimati Bindu Basini Choudhurani, Hafiz Mahmud Ali Khan, and Rahatannesa Khanum Choudhurani of the place, would be willing to come forward with

AHMADI,
Mar. 27th, 1890.

the deficit. Government is humbly requested to pay attention to this matter.

KASIPUR NIVASI,
Magh, 1296 B.E.

31. The *Kasipore Nivási*, for the first fortnight of Magh, says that the boys who attend the Banaripara Entrance School from the villages Narottampore, Bagpore, &c., suffer great inconvenience by reason of their having to cross a *khal* on their way to the school. The construction of a straight road through those two villages and of a bridge over the *khal* will not only remove the inconvenience of these school-boys, but also of the general public, who have to go on business to Banaripara, which is an important village, with a bazar, a post office, and schools and dispensaries.

(h)—General.

SAHACHAR,
Mar. 26th, 1890.

32. The *Sahachar*, of the 26th March, says that there is nothing new in Sir David Barbour's budget except a surplus of three crores of rupees which, it is hoped, will not prove delusive. The Budget furnishes no reply to the questions—whether the Income-tax will be repealed, whether the military expenditure and the large expenditure of Indian money in England will be reduced. Nor can replies to these questions be reasonably looked for in the Budget considering that in making financial arrangements for India the interests of England are first consulted. So long as the people of this country get no administrative powers, so long the Budget will be only a Budget, that is to say, a bundle of papers, and the people will get no clear idea of the financial position of the country. And yet there are people who say "Let the Congress do nothing, and Government will bestow all political rights upon the natives by-and-bye."

SAHACHAR.

Sir Steuart Bayley and the Kols.

33. The same paper is very glad that justice has been done to the Kols by Sir Steuart Bayley.

SAHACHAR.

34. The same paper, referring to the announcement made by Lord Cross that a Parliamentary Committee will be appointed to consider the claims that are being put forward by the European Uncovenanted

The European Uncovenanted officers of Government.

officers of Government, asks why should not the native officers of Government also obtain the right to be paid in pounds if that right is conferred upon the Uncovenanted European officers? Lord Cross will prove himself a weakminded statesman if he grants this unjust prayer of the Uncovenanted officers. That man cannot be an object of regard who does not listen to the wailings of the public. The Indians are in great distress. And loyalty is weakened by exactions. During his 30 years of journalistic life the writer never saw such discontent in the country as he now sees. The protests of the natives should not be disregarded this time too.

AHMADI,
Mar. 27th, 1890.

35. The *Ahmadi*, of the 27th March, complains that the outstill and liquor shop at Tangail in Mymensingh being both situated in the middle of the bazar produce a very demoralising effect on the populace.

The outstill and liquor shop at Tangail in Mymensingh.

Why they are tolerated in such a public place against the Government rule on the subject it is hard to make out. The municipal authorities should soon take steps to have them removed to a place hidden from public view.

ARYAVARTA
Mar. 29th, 1890.

36. The *Aryavarta*, of the 29th March, takes the Government of India to task for defending its excise policy on the ground that drinking habits have prevailed among the people of India from very ancient times. The Government is doing incalculable injury to the people by refusing to modify its excise policy through greed of gold.

The Excise policy of the Government of India.

37. The *Sanjivani*, of the 29th March, says that His Honour the

The Lieutenant-Governor and the
ryots of Jhenidah and Magura.

Lieutenant-Governor has acted very rightly in
visiting the country of the Kols himself with
the view of enquiring into and redressing their

grievances. But does not His Honour consider it his duty to see for him-
self the miserable condition of the ryots of Jhenidah and Magura? Hundreds
of these ryots have been unjustly sent to prison by Mr. Lusson, and they are
still seeking the aid of the law in having their wrongs redressed. But the
attitude Mr. Lusson has assumed towards them will not permit them to
remain quiet much longer. Will not His Honour take into his kind con-
sideration the case of these aggrieved cultivators? The outlook is very
gloomy, and the Government should lose no time in adopting proper
remedial measures. The ryots will not long brook in silence the injustice
to which they are subjected by Mr. Lusson.

SANJIVANI,
Mar. 29th, 1890.

38. The *Navavibhakar Sadharani*, of the 31st March, says that the

The Budget.

Indians would have blessed Sir David Barbour
with uplifted hands if instead of simply show-

ing them a surplus on paper he had lightened their burden of taxation. The
people of this country cannot enter into the intricacies of financial accounts.
They feel the finances to be in a sound condition, and they love Government
and its officers in proportion as the burden of taxation is taken off their
shoulders. When the surplus of Rs. 27,33,200 shown in the budget will
not lead to the decrease of the people's burden by a single cowri, the surplus
might as well not exist at all for aught they care. If the salt tax is now
repealed, millions of Indians will bless the Empress with uplifted hands, and
it is for this reason that Mr. Nulkar recommended its repeal. But Lord
Lansdowne has plainly declared that Government will entertain no such
proposal. His Lordship says that a reduction of the salt tax, say, by eight
annas, will result in a fall of 15 lakhs in the revenue. But what does it
matter to the people that there is a surplus if they can get no good out of
it?

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
Mar. 31st, 1890.

The writer is somewhat astonished at the re-establishment of the famine
fund under Lord Lansdowne after the squandering away of its proceeds on
the Afghan war by Lord Lytton and after the denial of its existence by
Lord Dufferin's Government. The re-establishment of the fund is probably
a result of the agitation set on foot by Messrs. Bradlaugh and Digby in
England.

39. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 1st April, referring to

The budget in the Legislative
Council.

the provision which will be shortly made for
the discussion of the Indian budget every year

in the Supreme Legislative Council, no matter whether or not any law relating
to the revenue is enacted, amended or repealed, says that the mosquitoes of
the Congress flatter themselves with the thought that it is under their
weight that the British Bull has lowered its head; but the fact is that the
concession is a concession to the Anglo-Indian merchants, who have repeat-
edly demanded the discussion of the budget every year.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Apr. 1st, 1890.

There is no likelihood, however, of the Indians obtaining any control
over the finances from the discussion of the budget in the Council every year.
The executive members of the Council will now as ever consult the interests
of Englishmen first of all. The budget was discussed in the Council this
year, and there was profuse speechifying over it. The non-official member,
Mr. Nulkar, spoke with the utmost boldness, Raja Durga Charan Laha was
not wanting in eloquence, and the Magistrate member, Syed Amir Hossein,
again insisted upon the exemption of incomes of Rs. 500 from the income
tax. But not one of them could carry his point.

The Viceroy and his Councillors must at all times look to the interests
of British trade. And so long as these interests predominate with them, so

long the annual discussion of the budget will bear no fruit for the people of India. The Home Member, Mr. Hutchins, readily disposed of Mr. Nulkar by characterising his utterances as irrelevant, but the Public Works Member, Sir Charles Elliott, felt it necessary to make an elaborate defence, when the non-official Anglo-Indian Member, Sir Alexander Wilson, found fault with him for having made an allotment of only a little over six crores of rupees for railway extension.

Influence is proportional to strength. And as Government is very strong, its arbitrary system of making financial arrangements will not cease, even if the principle of election is introduced in the Councils. Government will never make any financial arrangement which will affect the interests of either British or Anglo-Indian merchants. The writer cannot say how long this state of things will continue. But it is certain that it will not be removed by either an increase in the number of the Members of the Council, or by the introduction of the elective system.

This year too, as in former years, the Viceroy and his Councillors have in a manner declared that they will allow no one to question the correctness or legality of their proceedings.

III.—LEGISLATIVE.

DAINIK-O-SAHACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Mar. 30th 1890.

40. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 30th March, says that The Act to amend Act XXV of 1867, under the provisions of the Act amending Act XXV of 1867, every author will have to give gratis to Government one copy of his book, and Government may also take two more copies without paying for the same. That is to say, the new Act will compel every author to give gratis to Government three copies of his book. It has been stated on behalf of the Government that the native authors, far from complaining, should feel honoured by being required to send copies of their books to such an institution as the British Museum. Yes, this is exactly what the sovereign should say! The people of India must not grudge to give to Government whatever it is pleased to ask of them for sending to England, for it will redound to the people's own honour to do so. Yes, the more such oppressive laws are passed, the more honoured should the people feel!

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

SAKTI,
Mar. 25th, 1890.

41. The *Sakti*, of the 25th March, says that a follower of Mr. Malabari has expressed a desire to prepare a list of the number of married and unmarried persons, of widows and widowers among the different Hindu castes, and he wants to have it done for him by Government at the ensuing census. The following are what he wants the census officer to ascertain for him:—

- (1) The number of old men marrying girl-wives.
- (2) The number of widows who are deprived of the enjoyment of married life by the custom of the country.
- (3) The ages of husband and wife at the time of their marriage.
- (4) The age of widows at the time of the death of their husbands.
- (5) The present ages of bachelors and maids.
- (6) In the case of men who have married more than once, the ages at which each such marriage took place.

The writer fears lest Government should by acting on the advice of this gentleman, incense the Hindu community against the census operations by compelling them against their own notions of propriety to disclose the ages of the female members of their families.

42. The *Sahachar*, of the 26th March, referring to the treat given by Lady Lansdowne at Government House to European and Eurasian children, says that some similar entertainment ought to have been provided for native boys too.

SAHACHAR,
Mar. 26th, 1890.

43. The same paper says that the Bengalis are not cowards. Sir Syud Ahmed's notion that the Bengali creeps under the table at the sight of a table-knife

SAHACHAR.

must have been derived from a perusal of some translation of Macaulay. It was a Bengali who ventured into the interior of Tibet and sketched a map of that country when no European would undertake the perilous task. They are mistaken who think that Bengalis will show the white feather on the field of battle. That alone should go by the name of courage with which is conjoined perfect mental coolness. The Bengali has in him courage and coolness beautifully combined and the presence of Bengali officers in the army will make panics among soldiers rare if not impossible. After the recent enrolment of Parsees as volunteers, the Bengalis have again petitioned Government for the volunteering right. And it seems that now that Negroes and Parsees have been enrolled as volunteers, no objection can be made to the enrolment of Bengalis as volunteers, on the score of creed or colour. It is clear that fear in the ruler's mind is the only obstacle in the way of the bestowal of the volunteering right upon Bengalis. That right has been bestowed upon Hindus at Quetta, which is at a great distance, and where war is to be waged against the Biluchi Mussulmans. But the number of Hindus within India is very large, and the Anglo-Indians will not be able to sleep soundly if they find them armed with muskets. But it is unworthy of brave men to entertain such fears. A Bengali has made balloon ascents in imitation of an Englishman, and Bengalis, if allowed to fight, will fight like true soldiers in imitation of Englishmen.

44. The *Sudhakar*, of the 28th March, makes the following remarks on the indigo disputes in Jessore :—

SUDHAKAR,
Mar. 28th, 1890.

The indigo affair in Jessore.

The ryots in the Magura and Jhenida sub-divisions of the Jessore district have been reduced to a moribund state by the oppressions of the indigo planters; and Mr. Lusson, the Joint-Magistrate of the two sub-divisions, is himself adding fuel to the fire kindled by the indigo planters, Mr. Selby and others. In the course of the 22nd, 24th and 25th March last, Mr. Lusson sent sixty ryots to jail and fined them in the amount of Rs. 1,400. The ryots, Hindu and Mussulman, are making common cause in the matter, and it is very likely that all of them will be utterly ruined. The reports published in the newspapers, and the repeated representations of the ryots have failed to move the authorities; for His Honour Sir Stuart Bayley could not otherwise have maintained a determined silence in the matter. Or does the Government mean to see the ryots completely ruined? Why then this mockery of a Magistrate dispensing justice? Government may as well send the whole peasantry of Jessore to prison and confiscate their property. The District Magistrate and the Commissioner saw the miserable condition of the ryots with their own eyes, and heard with their own ears the story of their grievances, and promised to relieve their distress. And are they making good those promises of theirs by tearing away the poor ryots from the bosom of their families and casting them into prison?

It makes the heart bleed to hear the wailings of the poor ryots. 'O you kind hearted British rulers! it behoves you to rescue the meek peasantry of Jessore from the iron grasp of the demon indigo-planter. Do not suffer your reputation to be tarnished; but save, oh save those who cannot make their grievances known except by wailing!'

SUDHAKAR,
Mar. 28th, 1890.

45. A correspondent of the same paper says that the Mahomedan community of India should memorialise the Government of India praying it to deliver them from the oppression of the Hindus. The petition should be on the following points:—

- (1) That the conduct of the Hindu legal practitioners in Kushtea and Lakshimpura clearly shows that the Hindus are doing their best to wound the religious feelings of the Mahomedans, and that there being very few Mahomedan pleaders in Bengal, the Mahomedan community are in a fair way of being deprived of the benefit of the law courts, through the hostility of the Hindu pleaders, who now constitute almost the whole bar in Bengal. That if Government does not adopt means to remedy this state of things it will lay itself open to the charge of encouraging these oppressions by granting licenses to men practising the legal profession.
- (2) That the reason of the Hindus thus oppressing the Mahomedans is that they wish in this way to mark and make a show of their own superiority to their Mussulman fellow countrymen. The Mussulmans can only look up to Government for protection at this juncture
- (3) That in view of the increasing hostilities between Hindus and Mussulmans, and in consideration of the fact that the Mahomedan section of the bar in Bengal is extremely weak, Government should make new rules affording increased facilities to the Mahomedans to enter the legal profession. The facilities should be of the kind indicated below:—
 - (a) The number of Mahomedan pleaders in Bengal being very small, the Mussulmans who pass the Entrance Examination successfully from the Madrassas at Calcutta, Hooghly, Dacca, and Chittagong should be allowed to practise in the Munsifs' Courts on passing an examination in Law to be held at those Madrassas; and that the right of practising in the District Courts should be conferred on the Mussulmans who pass the F. A. Examination successfully on their passing a similar examination in Law.
 - (b) So long as the requisite number of Mussulman pleaders is not obtained by working the above rule, so long Mussulman revenue agents and mukhtars should be permitted to act as pleaders.

It will be quite lawful to make such rules, as rights similar to those the bestowal of which on Mussulmans is contemplated therein, have before been conferred on particular classes, and by the Tenancy Act of 1885 the revenue agents of zemindars if duly appointed have been permitted to act as zemindars' mukhtars in the munsifs' courts.

PRATIKAR,
Mar. 28th, 1890.

46. The *Pratikar*, of the 28th March, makes the following observations on the condition of the Indians under English rule:—The Indians do not mourn the loss of their political liberty, for political liberty is a thing to which they have been strangers for centuries. What they now prize above all things and what they are in danger of losing under English rule is their domestic felicity. They feel really aggrieved when the foreign Government does anything which is calculated to diminish their stock of domestic happiness, now their only solace in life. Long centuries

of thralldom have made them forget what a people's own ruler is. But they still aspire to call their great zemindars their own, and they still love them as their own zemindars. But alas! Government is daily making the gulf wider between the people and their leaders by giving the latter a Western training. Take, for instance, the case of the Maharaja of Cooch Behar. However highly he may be esteemed as an enlightened ruler by the Sovereign Power, there is no doubt that by his English education he has lost all touch with his own people. Again, the late Maharaja Scindia, foreseeing the future, requested the British Government, on his death-bed, not to interfere in the education of his son and heir, and to allow him to be trained up according to the traditions of his own family. Lord Dufferin, though he promised to act according to this request of the dying Maharaja, did not, however, for reasons best known to himself, keep that promise inviolate. The desire to provide for a countryman of his own perhaps got the better of him, and an English tutor was appointed to take charge of the young Maharaja. The subjects of the Gwalior State are now, therefore, in a fair way to lose their most cherished possession, namely, the independence of mind that they have hitherto enjoyed. The case is the same with the whole Indian population, who though they may be, in a sense, said to be in the enjoyment of political liberty even under their foreign rulers, are daily losing their mental happiness, and are thus suffering worse results than the most abject thralldom could have produced.

47. The *Samaya*, of the 28th March, says that the *Pioneer* has divulged an official secret by publishing the purport of the secret treaty with China.

SAMAYA,
Mar. 28th, 1890.

Divulgence of official secrets.

Again several Marwari and Jewish merchants have bought a large number of Government securities and a large quantity of English liquor apparently on the strength of the information furnished to them beforehand by some high officer (for no petty officer is likely to have had the courage to do so), that the duty on imported liquor would be raised, and that the Secretary of State would borrow money in England for the extension of railways. Will not Government set the law in motion against the offenders in these cases? If it does not do so, it will stand convicted of partiality. The writer waits to see what Government does in this matter.

48. The *Surabhi-o-Pataká*, of the 28th March, says that though the estates of the Maharaja of Bettiah are mortgaged to English creditors for a debt of 50 lakhs of rupees, the Maharaja has still contributed money in aid of the Lady Dufferin Fund. Strange loyalty this and strange cunning in the English officers too!

SURABHI-O-PATAKA.
Mar. 28th, 1890.

The Maharaja of Bettiah and the Lady Dufferin Fund.

49. The same paper is not in the least astonished at the announcement made by Sir Roper Lethbridge that the Secretary of State has agreed to consider the claims of the Anglo-Indian uncovenanted officers. India exists for the benefit of Englishmen, and they are mistaken who think that it exists for the benefit of the Indians. What possible interest can Englishmen have in governing India for the Indians? If India is to be governed for the Indians, how shall the thousands of Englishmen who can find no food in their own country be provided for? One of the greatest of English poets has said "Charity begins at home," and should not Englishmen follow that noble maxim? India must therefore be governed primarily for the benefit of Englishmen, and only secondarily for the benefit of the Indians, that is to say, when the primary object does not stand in the way. As for the declaration made some time ago by Lord Cross, that he could not add to the burdens of the poor Indian people for the sake of the Anglo-Indian uncovenanted officers, it meant nothing, such declarations being made from time to time by statesmen to earn credit for themselves. Sir

SURABHI-O-PATAKA.

The Anglo-Indian uncovenanted officers.

David Barbour's surplus will now enable Lord Cross to speak of the financial condition of India as a prosperous one, and he will on that plea grant the demand of the Anglo-Indian uncovenanted officers. As for the objection that is likely to be raised by the narrow-minded Indians and Indian writers that uncovenanted officers who agreed to receive their salaries and pensions in Indian money cannot now claim to be paid in pounds, it is sure to be pooh-poohed as being in the highest degree frivolous. Must Englishmen, who are the rulers of this country, substantiate their claims by documentary evidence? And cannot they alter the pension rules who can make any law they like? If they are to be denied these powers and privileges, what will become of their prestige as members of the dominant race? So there is no need of seeing whether the Indian gets his pinch of salt for his poor rice meal. It is enough if the Englishman's cup of milk is thickly sugared. Three cheers for the Anglo-Indian uncovenanted officers!

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Mar. 30th, 1890.

50. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 30th March, says that His Royal Highness Prince Albert Victor has seen only the bright side of India, its dark side not having been brought to his view.

Prince Albert Victor's departure from India.

But His Royal Highness, who has also seen the loyalty of Her Majesty's Indian subjects, should bear unreserved testimony to it before his royal grandmother. He has not seen the miseries of the Indian people, and will perhaps never see them. The people of India are entirely at the mercy of their immediate rulers in India, but they never think of the oppressions to which they are subjected by these rulers, and they will never draw the Prince's attention to those oppressions. It is enough that His Royal Highness has been satisfied about the loyalty of the people of India to the throne of Her Majesty.

SOM PRAKASH,
Mar. 31st, 1890.

51. The *Som Prakash*, of the 31st March, refers to the statement made by Sir John Gorst in the House of Commons in reply to a question of Mr. Caine, that every one in India can, if he chooses, become a volunteer; and that all Indians, without distinction of colour and creed, are enrolled as volunteers, and asks why, if the case stands as Sir John Gorst puts it, are Bengalis refused admission into the Volunteer Corps? Did Sir John make this haphazard reply under the pressure which was put upon him by Mr. Caine?

Sir John Gorst on the enrolment of natives as volunteers.

SOM PRAKASH.

52. The same paper says that it does not understand why Government has yet taken no notice of the indigo oppression in Magura and Jhenidah. It is hoped that the Lieutenant-Governor will himself visit the scene of this oppression and take steps to remedy the evil after making proper enquiries. When oppression like this is possible so near the metropolis, anarchy must be reigning supreme in the country. It is much to be regretted that a stigma should attach to the name of the English Government for the sake of a man or of a class of men.

Indigo oppression in Magura and Jhenidah.

GAUHAR,
Apl. 1st, 1890.

53. The *Gauhar*, of the 1st April, says that the affairs of the Oudh family will remain in an unsettled condition until an officer is appointed to watch over the morality of its members. Government is also going to dispose of the houses of the Begums of the late Nawab. Does Government mean by its behaviour towards these poor ladies that they should henceforward live like prostitutes?

The Oudh family.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Apl. 1st 1890.

54. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 1st April, referring to the departure of Prince Albert Victor from India, observes as follows:—

"It is Bombay which first greeted the Prince with a smile of joy, and it is Bombay which has now parted with him with tearful eyes. Other Indian

provinces have only heard of the Prince's departure. It is only Bombay which has with its own eyes seen him sail away from India, and it is therefore Bombay which has felt most acutely the pang of the farewell. We now heartily pray to God that the Prince may reach his dear native land safe and happy, and thus gladden the hearts of his grandmother, his parents and other relatives."

55. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 2nd April, says that the Cheap Literature Society is sure to succeed when the Viceroy himself has held out to it the

The Cheap Literature Society.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Apl. 2nd, 1890.

hope of a monthly contribution of Rs. 500 from the State, when the Lieutenant-Governor is not loth to assist it with money, and when the Director of Public Instruction is up and doing on its behalf. The natives are absolutely powerless to contend against the Government, and the Society, with the help of Government, will therefore begin to work mischief to the country. The Revd. Mr. Johnston, the chief promoter of the cheap literature scheme, said the other day :—" Nothing is now wanting to the Society's success. The mine is laid ; the fuse is ready, and it now only remains to apply fire to it." Fit words to describe such a scheme as this. It is a wonder that this unfortunate country is not yet on fire from the springing of Mr. Johnston's mine. The Society will undertake the publication of both English and Bengali books, and there can be no doubt that many worthless writers will seek employment under the Society for money's sake. It is certain that those who can, for the sake of money, conduct newspapers on behalf of the enemies of the country, or help in that undertaking, will make money under the patronage of the Society. Sir Alfred Croft and his chief naib, Rai Radhika Prasanna Mukharji Bahadur, are supporters of the Society. The Society will therefore be easily able to introduce its books into the schools and pathshalas of Bengal. The writer foresaw at the very outset that the society would destroy the trade of native authors.

URIYA PAPERS.

56. The *Uriya and Navasamvad*, of the 26th February, is of opinion that a great boon would be conferred on the people of the country, if the duty on salt were reduced to its former rate.

The salt duty.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
Feb. 26th, 1890.

57. The same paper, of the 5th March, hopes that the Chairman of the District Board of Balasore will take prompt measures for ensuring a punctual payment of the wages of the mehters employed on the conservancy work connected with the Jagannath road. The writer suggests that it would be convenient to make such payments either through the officers subordinate to such Board, or by money-order.

Payment of mehters by the Balasore District Board.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
Mar. 5th, 1890.

58. The same paper, of the 12th March, reports that a good shower of rain is now required in the Balasore district, as heat is gradually increasing there.

State of the weather in the Balasore district.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
Mar. 12th, 1890.

59. The editor of the *Utkaldipika*, of the 1st March, has learnt that a monster meeting was held in Madras. The object of the meeting was to effect certain reforms in the Legislative Councils of India. The editor hopes that people in other parts of India will not remain silent, but endeavour to take an active part in the movement.

Reform of the Indian Legislative Councils.

UTKALDIPIKA,
Mar. 1st, 1890.

60. The editor of the same journal in an article headed "The litigation in connection with the Baldebjee math of Kendrapara" makes the following observations :—

The Baldebjee math in Kendrapara.

UTKALDIPIKA.

The affairs of the math in question are still involved in confusion. There has been a difference of opinion among the newly-appointed members

of the managing committee of the math as to the arrangements which should be made for the better management of the math. In a certain case connected with the math, the Sub-divisional Magistrate's proceedings have been found fault with, inasmuch as he subjected one of the defendants, by name Dwarkanath Rai, to great trouble and hardship. It appears that the defendant was too ill to attend court to give evidence, but in spite of this the said Magistrate required him to attend, at his own expense, his cutcherry, which he held in the mofussil. The defendant, in obedience to this order, proceeded to the mofussil in a covered litter to his serious inconvenience. While the witnesses of the defendant were being examined, the Magistrate seems to have used some abusive and insulting language towards one of them. The editor remarks that such conduct on the part of the hakims is highly reprehensible.

UTKALDIPKA
Mar. 8th, 1890.

61. The *Utkaldipiká*, of the 8th March, hopes that the kind-hearted Magistrate of Balasore will lose no time in relieving the distress of the people of Tal-

pudda, arising from scarcity of food.

UTKALDDIPKA.

62. The same paper reports that a number of Khonds residing in Killa Khondpara forcibly carried away a male child, aged 12 years, from his mother for the purpose of offering him as a sacrifice

The Khond custom of human sacrifice and the carrying off of a child.

before their goddess. The poor woman brought the matter to the notice of the Raja of Khondpara, who seems not to have listened to her complaint. She has now represented her case to the Superintendent of the Orissa Tributary Mehals, who is requested to enquire into the matter and take prompt measures to put a stop to the cruel custom if it at all prevails.

UTKALDIPKA,
Mar. 15th, 1890.

63. The *Utkaldipiká*, of the 15th March, states that the people of Orissa will be exceedingly glad if the Commissioner of Burdwan, Mr. Toynbee, is appointed as Special Commissioner at the ensuing settle-

Mr. Toynbee and the settlement of Orissa.

ment of Orissa, as he is an experienced officer and is intimately acquainted with the circumstances of the people of the province.

UTKALDIPKA.

64. The same paper quotes certain incorrect passages from the paper in Uriya given for translation into English at the last Entrance Examination, and observes that such an Uriya Examiner should not in

The Uriya translation paper at the last Entrance Examination.

future be appointed. The editor also draws the attention of the Director of Public Instruction and the Syndicate to the matter.

UTKALDIPKA.

65. The same paper, in writing an article on the approaching resettlement of Orissa, condemns in general terms the proposals made by Mr. Finucane regarding the

The Orissa settlement.

survey of lands in Orissa by putwaries. The editor suggests the advisability of appointing passed students of the Cuttack Survey School for the purpose. It appears that a higher European officer and one or two Deputy Collectors and a large number of Sub-Deputy Collectors will be appointed to carry on the work of the next settlement. The inference is that the best part of the work will necessarily devolve upon the ill-paid Sub-Deputy Collectors. In previous settlements old and experienced Deputy Collectors were employed, and the very opposite thing is going to be now done. The editor thinks that no good can come out of such an arrangement. The settlement is a very important work, and it is absolutely necessary that it should be very carefully and efficiently performed, as the interests of the zamindars and particularly of the ryots depend in a large measure upon the success or otherwise of the measure.

DIPKA,
Mar. 1st, 1890.

66. The *Dipaka*, of the 1st March, suggests the desirability of effecting a permanent settlement of Orissa before the extension of the Bengal Tenancy

Permanent settlement of Orissa.

Act to that province. The writer observes that if the said Act is extended to Orissa before a permanent settlement is made, it will give rise to litigation between the zemindars and the ryots.

67. The editor of the *Samvadbāhikā*, of the 26th February, heartily thanks the Magistrate of Balasore and Mr. Commissioner Worsley for their laudable attempts to afford timely relief to the famine-stricken people of Talpudda in the Balasore district.

SAMVADBAHIKA,
Feb. 26th, 1890.

68. The *Samvadbāhikā*, of the 13th March, recommends the adoption of a patrolling system between Balasore and Sorah, inasmuch as highway robberies are of frequent occurrence between those two stations.

SAMVADBAHIKA,
Mar. 13th, 1890.

ASSAM PAPERS.

69. The *Paridarshak*, of the 24th March, hears from a correspondent that three gamblers near Gobindagunge, in Dighali, are enticing and robbing passers by, and that the police is quite indifferent in the matter. The correspondent has mentioned some names in this connection, but his letter not being authenticated, the names are not published. The police may get the names on enquiry at the office of this paper.

PARIDARSHAK,
Mar. 24th, 1890.

70. The same paper says that quarrels are going on between the fakeers of Shaha Jelal's dargah on the one hand and Mefti Nuruddin and Sarkum Abdul Wahab on the other regarding the 'bhati' (offering). Some of the fakeers have been sent to prison, and the Police Inspector, Dakshina Baboo, is himself investigating the cases instead of deputing the town police to do the work. The reason of the Inspector Baboo taking a personal interest in the cases will, in the opinion of a correspondent, appear from the fact that on the night of the 12th March last the wife of the Sarkum Shaheb was seen going to the house of the Inspector Baboo in a palankeen accompanied by a child and two maid servants.

PARIDARSHAK.

71. A correspondent of the same paper complains that the absence of the Sub-divisional Officer of Sylhet on tour in the mofussil during the greater part of the year causes great inconvenience to the public, and especially to parties and witnesses in criminal suits coming from great distances. The whole work of the Court is entrusted to an old mohurir and some inexperienced apprentices, and no one knows how these men are performing their duties.

PARIDARSHAK.

72. A correspondent of the same paper writes to say that the letter in a recent issue of the *Paridarshak* (see report on Native Papers for week ending the 22nd March, paragraph 80), exposing some of the misdeeds of the Munsif of Sunamgunge, has given umbrage to that official, and that he has therefore employed spies to detect its writer, and is taking the advice of his friends as to what should be done in the matter. But the best thing for him to do would be not to take underhand means against the writer of the letter, but to come forward openly with his defence, if he has any, or to bring a charge of defamation against the writer in a court of justice, if he thinks that the charges made against him are false. And the very best thing the Munsif Baboo can do is to mend his ways and keep quiet. If, however, he is bent on recriminating, he should take note that he may be more thoroughly exposed, for the charges that have already been brought against him constitute but a small fraction of what may be alleged against him.

PARIDARSHAK.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,
Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
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